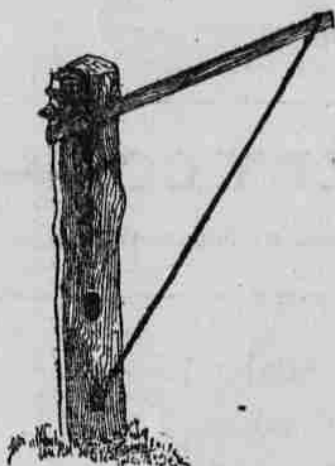


ROAD AND FARM IMPROVEMENT

MENDING SPLIT POSTS.

Draw Tightly Together with Chain and Insert Bolt.

Those who have post-and-rail fences know that posts are likely to split from a variety of causes, letting the rails drop and making a very poor fence. The damage is usually repaired by nailing an old horseshoe or two across the split in the post below each post hole. Although this answers fairly well, it does not draw the post together. Horseshoes are not always on hand and even if they were they will have to be nailed very se-



Mending a Split Post.

curely in order to keep the posts from spreading even more. A good method of closing up the cleft is shown in the accompanying cut, says The Farmer. Place a short, stout chain around the top of the post just tight enough to admit a strong lever. The post can then be drawn together by a strong downward pressure and the lever held there by tying it to the lowest post hole. A half-inch hole can then be bored through the post, a bolt drawn through and the sides drawn tightly together. This post will then last as long as any other in the fence and will not be a cause of losing any sleep for fear your own or some one else's cattle will be getting into trouble.

HINTS TO HELP.

Stop the danger of runaway by getting new harnesses or having the old ones nicely fixed up.

There are some people so honest that they never deviate from the truth, except when the tax assessor calls.

Begin the season right by cutting off the top of every weed that shows itself. At the same time, root out every unkind word that comes to your lips.

It costs 25 cents to raise a bushel of potatoes, and they seldom sell for less than 50 cents. Doubling one's money is considered pretty profitable business.

When things go wrong on the farm, just think that it might be worse. Hurry around and make the wrong thing right, and lie down to rest at night feeling that every day is a good day, no matter what happens in it.

Fattening Calves for Veal.

As a result of some London experiments it was decided that about a month is as long as it is advisable to feed calves on whole milk on a dairy farm, or until they have reached about 160 pounds live weight, or 96 pounds of veal. This weight may be attained in a month, provided the calves are fattened as quickly as possible, but one cannot expect to do it unless the calves are fed three times a day. An effort should also be made to have the calves fat at the time veal commands a high price; otherwise the returns from vealing calves on whole milk may not be at all satisfactory.

CORN IS KING.

Successful Farmer Tells How He Raises Hundred Bushels Per Acre.

I have raised more than 100 bushels of corn per acre three times during the last four years, and expect to have more than 100 bushels per acre this year. I did it in this way, explains L. F. Andrews, in Farm Journal.

I take my hay crop off and then let the second crop grow unpastured until it is at its best, then I plow it down and sow to rye; in the spring I manure the rye and let it grow until almost the first of May, when the rye is coming into head. I plow rye and manure down, put on 25 bushels of lime per acre, and sow it to corn, putting 125 pounds of rock fertilizer to the hills per acre. I mark out the corn rows three feet eight inches each way, plant four grains to the hill, and later pull out the smaller plants to two to the hill. I cultivate the corn both ways until you can see neither horse nor man over the top of the corn. When the corn is ready to cut I haul it off; and seed the field to wheat and grass. I never leave the grass crop more than one year, so I need only three fields for my rotation.

I select the thickest, longest-grained corn that I can find for seed—ears that will shell about one quart of shelled corn per ear. Some critics say that thick cobs are a waste; but grains one inch in length around a thick cob will shell more than twice the quantity that short grains around a thin cob will shell; and I raise corn for the corn, the cob going in the bargain. I always mix my seed corn, that is, I put one peck of the best corn I can buy to each bushel of my own selected seed, and mix well.

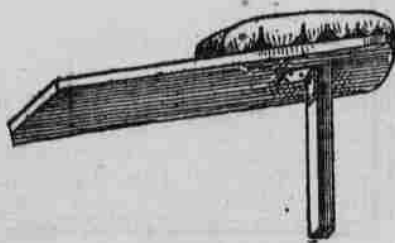
When the corn comes into tassel I take a broom handle with a knife at the end, and pass through the corn, clipping off the tassel of the weaker one of the two stalks in each hill; and if the difference in the stalks is not too great, the clipped stalk will have the larger ear. I like a strong stalk to furnish the pollen, and one tassel to each hill is amply sufficient to fertilize all the corn. I can clip the tassels off two acres of corn in one day.

If smut appears on the tassel or any part of the corn stalk, I clip off with the knife, and those stalks make full ears; while if the smut was left on, they would not produce any corn, or at best only shriveled small ears. I seldom have six hills missing per acre, as I replant as soon as the blades peep above ground. And if birds or something else destroy some hills when too late to replant corn grains, I replant with corn stalks, and raise full ears on such replanted stalks. Thoroughness pays.

REMOVABLE BUGGY SEAT.

Device by Which an Extra Person Can Be Comfortably Provided For.

A convenient, removable third buggy seat is made by tacking a stuffed cushion on one end of a board, the other



Removable Buggy Seat.

end of which is slipped under the seat cushion. A stick is hinged to the underside, explains the Prairie Farmer, which serves as a leg to the seat, and when not in use this can be folded up and the whole seat slipped under the buggy seat out of the way.

The American Hen.

There is nothing mean or narrow about the American hen. She cackles for all, and last year she supplied Cuba with a million dollars' worth of prime eggs, to say nothing of the enormous quantities sent to England and other countries.



PURELY FEMININE

CARE OF THE HAND

IDEAL IS A POSSIBILITY FOR EVERY GIRL.

Simple Precautions That Will Preserve Delicacy and Beauty—Consistent Use of Glove an Absolute Necessity.

The ugliest of hands may be vastly improved, if not actually beautified.

First of all, girls should learn to hold the hands so that they will somewhat resemble the ideal one, which is slightly wedge-shaped, the broader end at the wrist and the narrower at the tapering finger tips. And be careful never to clench the fist, for that not only denotes meanness and parsimony, but tends to broaden the knuckles.

The hand should be kept open, whether hanging at the sides or lying flat in the lap.

In the latter case the palms look prettiest turned upward, and if they are kept soft as the soles of a baby's feet and rosy as the inside of a shell, so much the better, for, in addition to expressing youth and health, such delicacy dumbly appeals to the sterner sex.

It is not the hard-palmed woman who secures the subway seat during the rush hours, however richly she may deserve such consideration. Not that man is unchivalrous, but because he believes that the owner of square-fingered, broad, brown hands is as well able as himself to cling to a strap.

Every girl should realize this and bear in mind that any man who pretends to admire palpably ugly hands is not to be trusted.

The hand of the feminine golf enthusiast may be readily recognized by its flat fingers and massive joints, but if its shape must be wantonly sacrificed, its cuticle at least should be kept white by regular washings in warm water mixed with cornmeal and the purest soap obtainable, for money so spent is well laid out.

After washing the hands should always be thoroughly rinsed in cold water, and if one is not immediately going out of doors, slipped into loose gloves.

In fact, to keep the hands in good condition, the golfing girl should wear gloves at every possible waking moment commensurate with domestic obligations, and invariably from night until morning, for paste lined "beauty" gloves, which accomplish miracles with hard palms, work while their owner sleeps.

Dark hued, thin and hard hands may be made white, plump and soft by soaking them in hot water until the pores are opened, then rubbing cold cream into their backs, palms, finger tips and joints and letting it soak into them while one reads and mentally digests the morning paper's telegraphic news.

When they have been wiped with a coarse towel, one will be surprised and certainly shocked at the amount of grime removed and impelled to treat them to a second hot water soaking and another cream deluge before drawing on a pair of new, loose, white chamois gloves.

Do not endeavor to economize with a pair of cleansed party gloves, which

will probably be tight in spots and certainly soiled inside.

Stains, freckles and tan lend coarseness to the appearance of the skin. Lemon treatment will usually vanquish the effects of the sun's rays, raw tomato juice is excellent for fruit stains and pumice stone will rub away ink marks—no longer excusable on the plea that they suggest literary pursuits, as up-to-date members of the craft dictate to typewriters.

During chilly weather the hands are apt to chap if exposed to the outer air directly after being bathed, unless thoroughly rinsed in cold, running water and kept warm and moist in loose-fitting gloves, which, by the way, will make the hands appear smaller. Moreover, palpably tight gloves lend their wearer an air of vulgarity, and if habitually worn nature will evidence disapproval in the form of enlarged joints.

SIMPLE GOWN FOR YOUNG GIRL.



Soft cloth of a rich chestnut color is used for this gown. The sides of the three-gored skirt are stitched over the front breadth and ornamented with gilt buttons.

Over the plaited blouse is worn a deep pointed collar of embroidered net, bordered with a band of Irish guipure, and a ruffle of fine lace, and the little loops and long ends are of cream liberty silk, finished with gilt tassels and slides. The sleeves are of the raglan style, trimmed with stitching and buttons. The belt is soft leather, fastened with a gilt buckle.

To Sew on Braid.

Hang the skirt, then baste near the edge. Turn the loose hem and baste on braid, then stitch on the braid with a big stitch and it can be easily ripped in case it wears out. This stitching will not show on the right side. After the braid is on the hem can be evened and the skirt finished at the bottom. This saves sewing braid on by hand.